

From: Matthew Harding, P.E
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/6/02 3:01pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Mr. Ascroft, thank you for your consideration.

Matt Harding

Matthew L. Harding
1428 S. Lindenwood Drive
Olathe, Kansas 66062

January 5, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I am writing you today, to express my support for the recent antitrust settlement between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. I feel the stipulations of the recent settlement are sufficient and that no further actions be taken against Microsoft.

Currently, Microsoft has agreed to many stipulations some of which I feel to be too drastic. However, due to the fact that Microsoft agreed to comply is reason enough to let this matter stand where it is. This settlement was reached after extensive negotiations with a court appointed mediator. Microsoft has agreed to compromise much more than I would have if I were in their shoes. The sharing of codes and more software information will be given to competitors, thus creating more opportunities for other companies and providing the consumer with even more choices.

After three long years of court battles, Microsoft and the Government have settled the antitrust suit. Now more than ever our economy needs to allow this settlement to end here. Money and other resources need to be spent on more important issues currently facing our nation. Please, let's allow Microsoft to focus on innovation, rather than litigation.

Sincerely,

Matthew Harding

MTC-00009058_0002